4: Burgess E-4.5 (1926-1927) 1928 AF12 North China AF12

envy and hostility of the Wenchow traders, and suffer insult and injury, we have no adequate means of redress. Mercantile firms, if each looks only after its own interests, will experience disgrace and loss, the natural outcome of isolated and individual resistance. It is this which imposes on us the duty of establishing a club.[1]

In this study some evidence was found that some of the guilds in which membership was formerly confined to those of one district may have originated in this way. The following description given by a representative of the Tailors Guild would bear out this theory:

> This profession, we are told, originated in the South. The tailors who first came to Peking found it very difficult to find a lodging-place; so they called a meeting of their fellow-tradesmen to discuss the difficulty. The first proposal was that one per cent of everyone's salary should be given towards the organization of the guild and the building of a guild headquarters. The fund asked proved insufficient, so customers were asked for contributions. With these funds the Guild House was established during the Ming dynasty.

The Actors, in like manner, originally came from Anhui, and it may be possible that the Actors Club originated in close identity with the Actors Provincial Club, although the available material does not furnish any evidence along this line. The Water Carriers in Peking are almost entirely from Shantung, and the Bankers are invariably from Shansi.

(4) Another explanation of the origin of the guild may be found in the study of the inherent reasons for guild organization present both in contemporary Chinese society and in the ancient social structure. From of old the officials have levied taxes of one kind or another on commercial trans-

[1] Morse, *op. cit.*, p. 44.

4: Burgess E-4, 5 (1926-1927) 1928 AF12 North China AF12

Table and Chair Makers — *Cho Yi Hang* (Table Chair Guild). 467* 322

Originally makers only of Chinese-style tables and chairs, they now also make foreign-style furniture.

Tailors—*Cheng Yi Hang* (Make Clothing Guild). 467* 294•

The makers originally only of Chinese clothing but now also of foreign-style clothing.

Tinkers (or Porcelain Menders)—*Chiao Lu Hang* (Clever Stove Guild). 467* 445

The members of this organization are the traveling tinkers who carry along with them their implements, including a diamond-pointed gimlet made to revolve by the use of a twisted rope, and a little stove. These artisans, rightfully called "clever," mend articles made of porcelain, brass, iron, and certain other metals, usually by the use of metal brads. They are perhaps best known for their skill in joining together securely broken pieces of china, by both gluing the pieces together and fastening them firmly by brads melted into tiny holes which they have bored in the porcelain.

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Clock Stores — *Chung Piao Hang Shang Hui* (The Clock Watch Commercial Guild Association). 441* 405

Buyers, sellers and repairers of clocks and watches. These artisans do not make clocks or watches, but have skilled workers in their stores to make repairs.

Cloth Stores — *Pu Hang Shang Hui* (Cloth Commercial Guild Association). 441*

Dealers primarily in cotton cloth. Silk, however, may be found in most cloth stores.